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Going in, I lost only one of the skirts of my coat, and would have possibly reached the pit in my monoskirted costume, but that on the steps, as we went up to the pit, a man, who smelt strongly of cheese and onions, requiring a purchase, by which to force himself up the steps, placed his elbow against the stomach of a French lady who was next him, and by this ingenious contrivance, which another man might not have thought of, pressed forward. The lady fainted with the pain, and fell back into my arms; the cheese-iverous man got into the pit, cheered by some of his companions, while I retreated to get cold water to recover the fair foreigner. By the time she had got sufficiently well to be put into a coach, and sent home, the announcement of "Pit full," was stuck up at the door, and I walked home, meditative and skirtless, revolving in my mind, the peculiar nature of the amiableness of the English common people.

### THE DRAMA.

In the last week the theatre has been dull, stale, flat, and (what is no doubt far worse in the opinion of the manager) unprofitable. Massaniello has been succeeded by "Love in Wrinkles," a piece of very inferior merit; it seems, as far as we could judge, a poor translation from the French. The music is the composition of an amateur, Mr. Fetis, the author of several clever letters on the English composers, published in the Harmonicon. Our limits will not permit us to go into minute criticism on either the piece, or its performance; in fact, though Braham and Fanny Ayton were to sing, the theatre was empty, and we left it, fearing to catch cold.

### LITERARY NOVELTIES.

The forthcoming volume of the Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, will contain a very important essay on the History, Literature, and Antiquities of ancient Ireland, by John D'Alton, Esq. Barrister at Law. This essay obtained the Cunningham medal, and the full premium of eighty pounds from the academy.

It will be gratifying to the medical profession to learn that a new volume of Dublin Hospital Reports, is now in course of publication, under the able superintendence of Dr. Graves.

Mr. McGregor is busily engaged upon a third series of Stories from the History of Ireland; comprising the period from the accession of James I. to the Legislative Union in 1801. We believe the series will be completed in two volumes.

The new Greek-English Lexicon, which we announced in our last number, is not by Dr. Hincks, but by his father the Rev. Thos. Dix. Hincks, formerly of the Cork Institution.

A volume of Poems, entitled "Leisure Hours," by James Moore Shelley, is stated to be in the press, and nearly ready for publication.

### LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

SOME inhabitants of Belfast and the neighbourhood, have lately commenced a Botanic Garden. The ground taken is most eligibly situated, having its entrance from the old Dublin road, and it has been laid out under the direction of Mr. Thomas Drummond, who was assistant botanist to Dr. Richardson, and spent

several months in exploring the Rocky mountains. This society is under the patronage of the Marquis and Marchioness of Donegal, and has lately received a most liberal and valuable present of young trees and shrubs from the nurseries of Collon, the gift of the Lord Viscount Ferrard, as well as several rare plants from Lady Dufferin.

The number of matriculated students in the Belfast institution, during the present session, exceeds two hundred, which is more than in any preceding session. The lectures of Mr. Ferrie, the newly elected professor of moral philosophy, are well attended and much admired.

There has been nothing further decided yet as to the Munster College.

It is proposed to establish a College, on the London University plan, at Bristol. The citizens have come to the resolution "That some public provision and establishment, for literary and scientific education, on an enlarged scale, and at a moderate expense, would be a most valuable acquisition to the City of Bristol and its vicinity."

It is proposed to raise 15,000*l.* in 300 transferable Shares of 50*l.* each, to begin with.

### ORIGINAL POETRY.

#### On reading over again Letters of the Dead.

Oh! heart-poured thoughts! that now have grown  
Too sculpture-like in form;  
Freezingly beautiful, to us  
Who knew the fountain warm:  
Who clasped the hand that left you here  
When life was in its language dear;  
Who lived upon its fondness mute,  
Who saw hope's flower, and see its fruit

Oh breathless words! that take  
Amid the stillness round  
The very voice that earth has lost,  
A sweet but startling sound,  
From lips that seem again to move  
Before us in their laughing love;  
As then when yet this sunny earth  
To us seemed only made for mirth.

Fond feelings! left behind  
Like the delicious breath,  
Of a last summer's rose  
Faded by wasting death;  
Its form, its colour fled away  
With earth's stern wanderer decay,  
While, rich as life, its lingering scent  
Of summer yet is eloquent.

Sad fragrant essence of the soul  
Thus severed from the clay!  
Twilight of love! whose sun has set  
Upon our earthly day,  
Yet for a little takes not quite  
Away from us its blessed light,  
Which upwards through the darkness still  
Streams soft, (itself invisible.)

Alas! we know at last  
Too vividly, the worth  
The shallowness of all that's sweet  
That's beautiful on earth:—  
Ever like mockery of our tears,  
The volume of departed years  
Opens its iron page before  
Our eyes; and they are young no more.

Yes; we are wiser than we were  
We wish no lost one back:—  
Plunged deeper in our being's dream  
The starless midnight black  
Of drowning mystery, leaves the mind,  
To faith's calm moonlight half resigned;  
And over us your accents come  
Like music of the exile's home.

But thanks to truth's pure light severe,  
We have not lived in vain,  
Since there is left a peaceful health  
Upon the awakened brain;  
Nor will we think too deeply now,  
On how we reached this calm—or how  
The change was wrought in us—enough  
Life's veil is torn for ever off.

And ye! whose seals in trembling joy  
Were broken in the years,  
Ere minds that were too high for earth,  
Had done with hopes and fears;  
Ere grief-bowed heads were laid at last  
Too low to heed the unkind world's blast,  
We fold you to your rest again,  
With one mute kiss—one lingering ken.

Z. Y.

### TO OUR READERS.

We this day present our readers with an impression of our paper, every copy of which is stamped. Before entering into the expensive arrangements requisite for undertaking a new paper on a novel plan, we naturally sought an explicit sanction from the Stamp Office, as that was indispensable before we could commence. We certainly expected that the privilege enjoyed by similar Literary papers in London and Edinburgh, would have been conceded to ours, namely, that of publishing a part of our impression unstamped, for town circulation, and the remainder stamped, for transmission by post. This, however, we were assured at the Stamp Office was contrary to law, and to that decision, after every effort, we were finally compelled to submit. So far we were purchasers with notice. But we were distinctly and repeatedly informed, that we might exercise a free choice as to whether we should stamp the whole impression, or publish the whole unstamped. We preferred the latter alternative, on account of the saving of expense to our readers; and to make assurance doubly sure, we solicited the written permission of the Office, to publish our Paper with Advertisements, on an unstamped sheet. We were desired to furnish our request in writing, which we did; and, after the lapse of many days, we were favored with an official letter from the highest officer of Stamps in Ireland, containing the permission in the precise terms in which we had sought it. On this we acted; but when our first publication was taken to the office to be registered, on Saturday last, we were told it was a Newspaper, and that every copy must be stamped. We sent for our letter, as a triumphant refutation of this assertion—but, on producing it, we were informed, that though our publication was in strict conformity to the terms there prescribed, yet as that letter was in contradiction to law, we had been led into an error which was now to be corrected—and, in a word, that we must either stamp or stop.—The latter was impossible, as we were already under obligations to the Public, which it was our duty to fulfil; and property to a large amount was embarked in the undertaking. We have, therefore, chosen the other horn of the dilemma—and shall, in future, publish every copy stamped. This is an addition of twopence to the cost price of the Paper, which, under the painful circumstances of having this unexpected change thus forced upon us, we shall divide with the Public, and add only a single penny to our price—depending solely on a very extended circulation for repayment of our heavy expense.

The Paper can now, of course, be transmitted through the Post-Office by any one, like an ordinary Newspaper.

It is but justice to the Officers of Stamps to add, that in our personal intercourse with them, we were uniformly treated with the utmost courtesy and attention. They at once admitted and bewailed that we had been grievously misled; but having satisfied themselves of the law, they could not swerve from its enactments.

The present explanation, however, was imperatively called for, in justice to our readers, and to our own character, for consistency and plain dealing.

We are compelled to postpone our notices of Learned Societies; the paper on the past and present state of the Fine Arts in Ireland will form the leading article in our next Number; the subject is so important, that we thought it more advisable to defer it altogether for a week, than to treat it in a slight or insufficient manner. We have been so variously occupied, this week, with matters foreign to our natural occupation, that we must plead our hurry in apology, for the want of the variety and completeness we could wish. After this, when we have got regularly into harness, we trust we shall not be found wanting.

We shall not vapour one word about the high and authentic source from which our sketch of the Duke of Wellington is derived. The article will speak for itself, it is with feelings of no ordinary satisfaction, however, that we are permitted to announce the constant cooperation and support of the same vigorous and able writer. The Londoners will, no doubt, be surprised to find us turning into their own quarters, and doing for them what they would find it rather difficult to accomplish for themselves.

We have naturally selected the greatest Irishman of the age for the subject of our first essay; but the leading members of the bar, and of the other liberal professions, will occupy, from time to time, a place in our personal sketches.

For the numerous and convincing proofs evinced of warm and active interest in our success, we have to return to each and all, our best and warmest thanks. Amid the vexations and anxieties of Editorship, it cheers one's heart to meet the right hand of friendship and support stretched forth in pure sympathy and good nature, by the highly-gifted and the good. It is this that stimulates while it rewards exertion, and the example will not, we trust, be lost, nor the call remain unanswered, by the native talent of our country.

#### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A certain fair Correspondent, whose initials reverse the terminational consonants of the alphabet, need not entertain any dread of savage treatment from the members of the Literary body she refers to. However lion-like on ordinary occasions, before the Ladies we can roar you, like Billy Bottom, as soft as a sucking pigeon. Like the gods of the heathen pantheon, however, even we are compelled to bow, sometimes, to the dictates of that stern arbiter, Necessity, which often makes wild work with the dainties that are bred in our book. To Cæsar, and Julius, and Charles Doyne Sillory, we owe our acknowledgments. To the first we shall address a private note of friendly advice, if he intimate a wish for it, by leaving his address in our letter-box.

Hakuf must test the antiquity of his relique, if he would have us enbalm it; it unused and pleased us, however. We are indebted to H. K.—His paper, with many others which we cannot now enumerate, is under consideration.

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